

## CAR MEN MEET AT MIDNIGHT FOR REPORTS

First Meeting of New Union Arranged to Discuss Companies' Replies.

EXPECT 500 TO ATTEND

Union Officials Charge That Four More Men Are Discharged.

The first meeting of Washington's organized motormen and conductors will be held in Typographical Temple at midnight to receive reports from the committees which presented the demands for higher wages, shorter hours and changes in working conditions.

The reports will be made by seven committeemen, six of whom have been discharged by the Capital Traction Company and Washington Railway and Electric Company "because of their connection with the union," according to union officials.

Replies from the two traction companies to the union's request for a reply to its demands will be read at tonight's meeting.

EXPECT 500 MEN.

At union headquarters in the Quary Building it was said that midnight was selected so as to accommodate as many motormen and conductors as possible.

"Out of the membership of 1,000, we expect to have at least 500 present tonight," said Risen Orr, international treasurer of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America, who organized Division 633 here.

Union officials charge that four more motormen and conductors had been "victimised" today by the companies for their affiliation with the organization. Among the discharged men, it is said to have been one who had been employed by the Capital Traction Company for twelve years and who was opposed to the union.

Organizer L. A. Sterne, of the American Federation of Labor, said the employees had been fired on suspicion of the union, "and was fired on suspicion."

"Female Detective."

It was also charged at union headquarters that the companies had "not only continued their espionage system, but increased the force by putting on a female detective in a checkered suit." Functions from both companies are said to have stationed themselves at the entrance to the Quary Building early this morning and scrutinized every one who passed in, or out, of the building. "Cheap detectives" by the motormen and conductors.

The word "strike" was used for the first time today and then in a negative way.

Officials of the union said they believed "the grievances can be settled."

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## Bets Not Taken On Chance of U. S. War

London Believes Firm Stand by Congress Will Remove Possibility of Conflict.

LONDON, March 4.—A firm stand by the United States Congress will force Germany to back down and remove practically all possibility of war between the two countries, English editors and officials declared today.

Setting and insurance circles reflected this sentiment. No odds on the possibility of war between Germany and the United States were posted, but leading brokers said that it definite requests for insurance are made their terms will be very liberal in view of the Senate's action yesterday.

They are counting upon similar action by the House of Representatives.

At Lloyd's it was stated today that no requests have been received for insurance against America's possible participation in the war. Consequently no official quotations are in existence.

The Senate's action in upholding President Wilson not only was a great victory for the President but undoubtedly will cause great dismay in Berlin, officials and the press declared today.

Some of the newspapers confessed they were misled because Senator Lodge's amendment tended to obscure the armed merchantmen issue.

But they agreed unanimously that the Senate had voted by an overwhelming majority not to interfere with Wilson in his foreign dealings. This, above all things, they said, was exactly what the President wanted.

The Times said the vote in the Senate undoubtedly would be followed by another victory for President Wilson in the House and seized the opportunity to advise the government to deal more liberally with the American press, declaring American went only the truth to be convinced of the justice of the allied cause.

The Daily Chronicle said that President Wilson has been "triumphantly justified."

## Would Give Women Vote On "Dry" Bill Under Referendum

If the prohibition question is submitted to a vote of the taxpayers of the District as proposed by Senator Underwood in a recent substitute for the Sheppard prohibition bill, women will be allowed to vote as well as men, provided an amendment proposed by Senator Borah of Idaho is adopted.

Senator Borah's amendment is a simple one and is intended to apply to the Underwood substitute proposing a referendum on the "wet" and "dry" question.

The amendment strikes out the word "male" and inserts language at various places in the bill so as to clearly give women as well as men the right to vote.

Senator Underwood in his referendum measure proposes to allow "male taxpayers" only to vote.

## CONFIDENT BORLAND RIDER IS DEFEATED

Labor, Commercial, and Civic Bodies Await Appearance of Measure Before House.

Confident that the Borland rider will be killed, labor, commercial, and civic organizations in Washington are resting on their oars today.

They are awaiting initial consideration of the measure in the House, and the filing by Congress Galloway of his minority report from the Appropriations Committee.

Finishing touches were put upon the Galloway report today. Borland, under the inspiration of President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, and other labor leaders, was given impetus at the mass meeting of department clerks under labor auspices at the National Rifle Armory last night when 300 civil service employees formed a union and took the obligation of allegiance to the American Federation.

The enthusiasm of the 1,500 clerks present was manifested within twenty minutes after the address by labor leaders had been made, when practically the entire audience surged toward the stage.

More than 1,000 of those present signed their intention of joining the new union and actually enrolled.

The direction of Secretary Frank Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, and President J. E. Gilley, of the stenographers, typewriter, bookkeepers, and office assistants' Association 11,773, A. F. of L.

H. M. McLaughlin, of the War Department, was elected temporary president; J. H. Kenecker, of the Interior Department, temporary secretary, and Paul D. May, of the War Department, temporary treasurer.

Whether a civil service union will be formed or the employers will affiliate with the office assistants will be determined at the next meeting, which will be held next Friday night at the Typographical Temple.

The organization of the new union, which its members insist presages the complete organization of the 30,000 odd civil service employees of the Federal Government in Washington, and their affiliation with the American Federation of Labor, came in close of a meeting that was notable for the enthusiastic response made to the sentiments expressed by labor leaders who addressed it.

President Gompers, Secretary Morrison, President Gilley, and Secretary Kenecker, of the National Federation of Postal Clerks, and President Edward L. Tucker, of the Central Labor Union, were the speakers, the admirals' addresses, at Borland amendment, which had been sent to the platform, was adopted unanimously with shouts of approval.

## U-Boat Sinks Two French Auxiliaries

Berlin Also Reports British Patrol Vessel as Victim of Submarine.

BERLIN (via wireless to Saville), March 4.—Two French auxiliary cruisers and one English patrol boat, been sunk by German submarines, the admirals' announced.

The admiralty statement does not identify the French cruisers.

The semi-official news agency adds the following: "Paris reports that a sinking of a transport, a Provence which carried 1,500 men, of whom 696 were rescued."

The French ministry of marine yesterday issued an official statement, denying a German report that two French cruisers had been sunk off Havre by German submarines.

The German report did not reach the United States until today.

## Jury Holds Man Died From "Butting Heads"

Woodford Gilson, colored, came to his death by an injury sustained in "butting heads" with another colored man, a jury in Criminal Court, No. 1, decreed late yesterday afternoon in acquitting John Dempsey, a bartender, of manslaughter.

Gilson died from a wound on the side of his head. Attorney John Lewis Smith and Glenn Willett, representing Dempsey, satisfied the jury that the blow administered by Dempsey was on the opposite side, the Government's case was presented by Assistant District Attorney William Leahy.

## Cheapeake Steamer Flooded Off Bar in Bay

BALTIMORE, March 4.—Wireless dispatches to the Chesapeake Steamship line offices this morning report that the steamer City of Baltimore, which went aground last night on Hampton bar during a snowstorm, has been floated.

The coast guard cutter, Conongee, is now proceeding to Baltimore.

## MILITARY SERVICE REQUIRED BY LAW OF D. C. RESIDENTS OF 18 AND 45 YEARS LIABLE.

Act of 1889 Creating Guard Makes Men Between 18 and 45 Years Liable.

GEN. HARVEY DISCOVERS IT

Calls Commissioners' Attention to Long Forgotten Statute in National Capital.

Compulsory military service is required by law in the District of Columbia.

The law establishing compulsory military service in the District of Columbia, an act of Congress, has been on the statute books for twenty-seven years.

But it was discovered only today, when Brig. Gen. William E. Harvey, commanding the District militia, filed formal request of the District Commissioners for a copy of the enrollment of the male citizens between the ages of 18 and 45 years, that no one but Gen. Harvey seems to have been aware of the fact.

It was a most innocent request that came from General Harvey through the mails this morning. The letter is rather short, it simply calls the attention of the Commissioners to the fact that there is a law on the statute books requiring the enrollment of every able-bodied male citizen in the militia, and requesting the Commissioners to complete such enrollment, and give the commanding general of the militia a copy of the rolls. All of which, the law states, the Commissioners must do.

Surprise to Board.

The discovery that there is really a law on the statute books compelling citizens of the District of Columbia to be enrolled in the militia and to respond to orders from the commanding general of the militia, came as a surprise to the Commissioners. And it was something of a surprise to the military experts in the District.

The law is the organization act of the national guard, enacted by Congress March 3, 1889. The provision: "That every able-bodied male citizen resident within the District of Columbia, of the age of sixteen years and under the age of forty-five years, excepting persons exempted in section two, and militia, militia, common."

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## BILL PROVIDES FOR FORUMS IN SCHOOLS

Johnson Measure in House Sets Aside Ten Buildings for Community Use.

A bill directing the Commissioners of the District to designate ten public school buildings to be used as "community forums" has been introduced in the House by Congressman Ben Johnson, chairman of the District Committee.

Mr. Margaret Wilson is interested in the bill, and will speak in favor of it at a meeting of the Grover Cleveland Forum, of which she is honorary president, at the Public Library tomorrow afternoon. Other speakers will include the Rev. Dr. Van Schaick and Congressman Cressler.

The bill provides that it immediately upon its passage the District Commissioners shall designate ten public school buildings as public forums and that after one year additional school buildings may be so designated by the Commissioners.

It is provided further that when twenty adult persons living within a radius of one-half mile, shall petition the Commissioners, they shall notify the Board of Education of the territorial limits of the community forum and the board shall assist the communities in organizing a forum through the school principal.

The concluding paragraph of the bill provides:

"That it shall be the duty of the Board of Education to provide out of appropriations of public funds a school for the public school of the District of Columbia light, heat, water service and such other incidental expenses as may be necessary to enable the comfortable and convenient use of public school buildings designated by the Commissioners of said District for use as community forums and community centers."

The John Lewis Smith and Glenn Willett, representing Dempsey, satisfied the jury that the blow administered by Dempsey was on the opposite side, the Government's case was presented by Assistant District Attorney William Leahy.

The Times said the vote in the Senate undoubtedly would be followed by another victory for President Wilson in the House and seized the opportunity to advise the government to deal more liberally with the American press, declaring American went only the truth to be convinced of the justice of the allied cause.

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## GERMAN FLANKING ATTACK ON PEPPER HEIGHTS DEFEATED

French Repulse Successive Charges in Attempt to Gain Northern Post.

FIGHTING NOW FOR VAUX

Germans Wasting Lives Lavishly to Smother Artillery Fire From Joffre's Forces.

LONDON, March 4.—French troops under General Petain have blocked every German attempt to capture Pepper Heights, north of Verdun, by a flank attack, according to Paris dispatches today.

Driven out of Douaumont village, General Petain is making a stand around the strong redoubt less than a mile southwest of Douaumont.

Here the French have repulsed with heavy losses successive charges by Germans, who hope to penetrate the French front and to cut off the defenders of Pepper Heights.

The battle around Verdun has been resumed.

Fighting is fierce as on the early days of the recent winter's drive.

The Germans are wasting lives lavishly, rolling up regiment after regiment to another French artillery fire.

Berlin's Claim.

No important German successes around Verdun are recorded in this afternoon's official Berlin war office statement, other than the repulse of French attacks near Obersept, with the capture of eighty prisoners.

Paris reported that lively artillery duels continued without infantry action resulting in important changes.

The Germans exploded a mine near Eparges, south of Peenane and twelve miles southeast of Verdun, during the night, but French fire prevented the Germans from occupying the mine crater.

Elsewhere along the western front the usual cannonade occurred last night.

Battle At Vaux.

Delayed dispatches from Paris admit that the Germans are holding practically all of Douaumont village, but report desperate fighting on the western outskirts.

Renewed attacks on the village of Vaux, are being made preliminary to a grand assault on Fort de Vaux, just to the south.

The French were driven out of Douaumont village after hot infantry fighting that began on Wednesday night and continued for more than twenty-four hours.

Probably no more furious struggle has been waged in the history of the war for possession of a little group of less than seventy-five houses. The village is the interesting point of three highways.

After an all-day bombardment, the gray line crept through the ravines just north of Douaumont, just at dusk.

At the same time another German column advanced along a little brook, leading to the village of Vaux.

French gunnery cast a shadowy light upon the advancing Germans. French artillery cut through the first lines and, under a sudden counter-attack, the gray front broke and fell back after a few hours' fighting.

Reserves Called Up.

During the night the Germans brought up masses of reserves. At dawn, Brandenburg and Pomeranian regiments renewed the assault against Douaumont.

"On the first two occasions," said a Paris dispatch today, "the assaults with great bravery reached the French barbed wire, but so fierce was the hail from machine guns and rifles that the gray-clad legions glimmered away."

The heaviest German attack was made on Thursday afternoon. The gray wave rolled on toward the French entrenchments, regardless of a terrific fire broke through the wire entanglements and penetrated the French front at several vital places.

German artillery, meanwhile, spread a heavy fire over the French rear, making it impossible to bring up reserves.

At night, Prussian regiments joined in the action and, overwhelmed by weight of numbers, the French were forced back upon the village of Douaumont, driven through the streets in hand-to-hand combats and finally forced to evacuate the town altogether.

## PARTY LEADERS FAIL IN EFFORT TO FORCE VOTE ON ARMED SHIPS

House Democrats Who Figure in Liner Crisis

Action In House Postponed Until First of the Week; Discussion Again Breaks Out In Senate Over Statement By Lodge In Debate

NO SOLUTION YET, SAYS McCUMBER

North Dakota Senator Asserts That Everything Still Is Up In the Air Regarding Bitter Controversy Over Proposed Warning To Americans

"The tabling of the Gore resolution did not meet the President's own proposal. If we take the usual construction of a tabling motion—namely, that it implies opposition to the measure tabled—the Senate voted yesterday that the killing of an American is not a cause for war."—From Statement by Senator McCumber in the Senate today.

Administration leaders in the House were unable to force a vote today on the armed liner issue.

After all plans had been made for a vote, virtually one of confidence in the President, strong opposition broke out and there is every indication that action will be postponed until the first of the week.

Meanwhile in the Senate discussion of the armed merchantmen-submarine question broke out again.

Senator Lodge started the argument by a statement, read into the record, that the British government had never, as reported, issued a warning during the Japanese-Russian war to its subjects to stay off armed merchantmen.

STILL "UP IN THE AIR."

Senator McCumber took the floor and in the course of a sensational statement said, "The action yesterday in no way met the views of the President" and declared that the question was left "up in the air."

Many Senators renewed their assertions that what happened yesterday was in effect to shunt aside all questions which might serve to hamper the Chief Executive in his handling of the grave international situation.

In the meantime President Wilson is marking time.

Before making final reply to Germany's latest submarine campaign the President is waiting definite information in two important questions.

WANTS ACTION BY HOUSE.

First he wants to know whether the House will vote to stand by American rights and against interference with the Executive.

He also wants to know whether British orders to sink submarines gives Germany grounds for abandoning the rules of civilized warfare.

The copies of the British admiralty orders, attached as appendices to the German submarine declaration, are due to reach New York on the steamer Rotterdam tomorrow, the State Department was advised today.

With this information and with the issue closed in Congress President Wilson may be able to hand a reply to Count von Bernstorff next week.

Senate Fails To Block Recurrence Of Fiery Debate

Reasons Vague For House Delay On Liner Warning

The agitation which raged so furiously in the Senate yesterday over the question of whether Americans shall be warned off armed ships, and whether the President shall be left with a free hand, could not be kept from recurring today.

Shortly after the Senate met, Senator McCumber took the floor and spoke in behalf of his reintroduced resolution, which was presented yesterday as a substitute for the Gore resolution.

The McCumber measure, in effect, is a warning to Americans to keep off armed merchant ships pending negotiations for a general international understanding.

Senator Lodge really set the ball rolling when he put into the record a demand for information from the British government, that the British government had warned its subjects to keep off Russian and Japanese ships in the Russo-Japanese war.

Senator McCumber then took the floor. "I think," said he, "we all concede

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## Billy Sunday's Campaign

From a Woman's View — From a Man's View

Two representatives of The Times have been attending the Billy Sunday meetings at Baltimore this week, and have written for the Sunday Times an analysis from different viewpoints of the methods and results of the revivalist's gatherings. Washingtonians are showing their interest by attending in considerable numbers. Special article will tell you why.

## In Tomorrow's Sunday Times